

SUMMARY MINUTES

ABAG CALFED Task Force Water Sub-Committee Meeting

August 16, 2002

Conference Room B, 101 8th Street, Oakland CA 94607-4756

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Ira Ruskin called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Attendance was as follows:

Members Present

Amy Fowler
David A. Briggs
Ira Ruskin
Jake Mackenzie
Mike Rippey (CALFED Task Force Chairman)
James Pretti
Jared Huffman

Jurisdiction

Santa Clara Valley Water District
Contra Costa County Water District
City of Redwood City
City of Rohnert Park
County of Napa
Contra Costa County Water District
Marin Municipal Water District

Guests Present

Carl Hauge
Fran Garland

Calif. Department of Water Resources
Contra Costa Water District

ABAG/CALFED Staff Present

Kathleen Van Velsor
Terry Bursztynsky
Jason Chan

ABAG
ABAG
ABAG Intern

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS/OPEN AGENDA

- Change meeting time to 11:30 a.m.
- Bring a bag of lunch

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF WATER MGMT. SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES OF JULY 11, 2002

The minutes of July 11, 2002 minutes was approved, with additions.

SMART GROWTH AND WATER

Gerald Raycraft for the ABAG Smart Growth Project

Presentation and Discussion:

A new land use pattern based on Smart Growth is better than the current pattern. No in-depth research for water usage has been done. Basic analysis of water use was based on the three alternatives. These alternatives were picked by the 9 counties. The steering committee will consider the ‘stitched together’ plan this Wednesday. Therefore there is no need to keep considering the three alternatives. Currently there is no money for an in-depth water usage report for preferred alternative. Instead, Victoria will do a case study with Santa Clara Valley Water District to get the average water use and apply it to other water districts. Figures will be in standardized format of per-capita rather than per-housing unit. A further, comprehensive analysis of water usage throughout the region is to be based on preferred alternative. The project team has put together a formal application for CalFed funding: base case / preferred alternative – study of all 9 counties. Victoria Eisen and Kearey Smith will obtain pertinent data for Amy Fowler.

Smart growth doesn’t take into account water or energy, and we should be looking at water supply prior to adoption of Smart Growth plan, not vice versa.

Smart growth is only a ‘possible picture’ of what could be. It focuses on generalized statements e.g. more housing near transit stations. The Smart Growth preferred alternative can be fine-tuned, but should be implemented/passed soon or it will just be more talk down the line. So the primary issue is to get it passed and iron-out the wrinkles later.

The timing of the final report is mid-October. Smart Growth Steering committee will be encouraged to:

- Adopt preferred alternative as a narrative description
- Support job & housing number projections as a starting point
- Direct staff to circulate preferred alternative description
- Reinforce interactive process so local governments can get involved
- Must take into account future water supply, what’s possible and what else is being done.
- ABAG ‘s Smart Growth planning shapes the future, but need authority through legislation to make changes.

THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

Ken Moy and members

Presentation and Discussion:

ABAG has no authority to start or stop projects. Smart Growth is not based on a real world analysis – narrative only. Triggering events haven’t yet occurred.

The issue is on the table. Projections from this work may be used, e.g. by MTC.

Smart Growth may not adopt/endorse the strategy – needs a local trigger.

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area

The need for analysis of consequences of Smart Growth vision is incorporated into the process. There are no resources for CEQA analysis of Smart Growth, but after SG vision is adopted, then you can get funding for research.

It's not good to analyze the plan retroactively, after plan is adopted. Are there funding changes etc to help plan get implemented?

One idea during the last meeting was drafting a letter voicing concerns. Chair and staff will draw up consensus letter on issue & look at it at the next meeting.

UPDATE ON DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

- Survey results from water districts – information to be used for CALFED database and ABAG Land Use database.
- So far 42 of 105 agencies have responded. There will be follow-ups.
- After data collection has finished, we will identify use of information on the region, but must first on the set of data provided.

REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE ON POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Ken Moy memo distributed and reviewed re: Committee Structure and Procedures.

Part 2. Structural issues:

- For broader issues, consensus is okay. For specific issues you must take into account majority voting.
- Committee as technical advisor to the Task Force and screening process.
- Positions on legislation: check w/ ABAG first
- State law prohibits public bodies from taking a position on ballot measures , but may be OK if no funds are spent
- Questions about individual voting decisions are political and philosophical in nature, not legal.

MEET THE WATER RESOURCES PLANNER

Carl Hauge, DWR Chief Hydrologist gave a PowerPoint Presentation (see handout)

ADJOURNMENT

Next Water Management Sub-Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2002 (11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.), Conference Room B, 101 8th Street, First Floor, Oakland CA 94607.

KVV/JC/vm